Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-25 NEA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CCO-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

ACDA-19 IO-14 OMB-01 USSS-00 AID-20 DRC-01 /167 W 094210

O R 270545Z OCT 73 FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7762 INFO AMEMBASSY BONN COMUSJAPAN FUCHU JAPAN CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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E.O. 11762: GDS

TAGS: PFOR JA GW XF

SUBJ: FOREIGN OFFICE INQUIRY CONCERNING WEST GERMAN PROTEST OF US ARMS SUPPLY TO ISRAEL

REF: TOKYO 13945

1. DEPUTY DIRGEN AMERICAN AFFAIRS BUREAU SUMIYA CALLED DCM OCT 27 TO INQUIRE ABOUT REPORTS OF FEDERAL REPUBLIC (FRG) PROTEST OF US ARMS SHIPMENTS FROM WEST GERMANY TO ISRAEL. (ACCORDING TO ONE BBC REPORT FOREIGN OFFICE HAD RECEIVED, FRG HAS QTE PROHIBITED UNQTE SUCH SHIPMENTS. SUMIYA ALSO STATED HE HAD HEARD REPORTS THAT UK AND GREEK GOVERNMENTS HAVE ISSUED STATEMENTS THAT THEY WOULD NOT PERMIT SUCH SHIPMENTS FROM US BASES IN THEIR COUNTRIES.) SUMIYA INDICATED THAT SOME CONSIDERATION BEING GIVEN WITHIN GOJ TO ADVISABILITY OF ISSUING STATEMENT OF ITS POSITION ON THIS MATTER.

2. EMBASSY UNABLE PROVIDE ANY INFORMATION TO SUMIYA OTHER THAN THAT CONTAINED IN RESPONSE BY DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN AT PRESS BRIEFING ON OCT 26 (STATE 211714) IN RESPONDING TO QUESTION CONFIDENTIAL

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ON THIS SUBJECT. IN READING THIS STATEMENT TO SUMIYA, DCM DIR-

ECTED HIS PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO CLEAR EXPRESSION OF USG CONCERN THAT NUMBER OF OUR ALLIES QTE GOING TO SOME LENGTHS TO IN EFFECT SEPARATE THEMSELVES PUBLICLY FROM US UNQTE. DCM ALSO REMINDED SUMIYA THAT ON BASIS INFORMATION PROVIDED BY EMBASSY, FOREIGN OFFICE HAD RECENTLY REBUTTED OPPOSITION ALLEGATION IN DIET THAT AMMO BEING LOADED AT KURE WAS DESTINED FOR ISRAEL (PRESS REPORT TO THIS EFFECT HAD APPEARED IN YOMIURI SHIMBUN ON OCT 18) BY STATING CATEGORICALLY THAT THESE SHIPMENTS DESTINED FOR PACIFIC AREA. DCM OFFERED PERSONAL VIEW THAT ANY GRATUITOUS STATEMENT BY GOJ EXPRESSING OPPOSITION TO HYPOTHETICAL SHIPMENTS BY US OF ARMS OR MUNITIONS FROM JAPAN TO ISRAEL WOULD BE RECEIVED MOST UNFAVORABLY IN WASHINGTON AND WOULD BE INTERPRETED AS EFFORT BY GOJ TO PUT DISTANCE BETWEEN ITSELF AND UNITED STATES ON MIDDLE EAST ISSUE. SUMIYA UNDERSTOOD POINT DCM MADE, BUT SAID HE MIGHT BE IN TOUCH AGAIN LATER IN DAY.

- 3. ACTION TAKEN BY FRG CERTAIN TO ATTRACT CONSIDERABLE ATTENTION HERE AND OPPOSITION ELEMENTS MAY WELL CITE THIS EXAMPLE IN EFFORT TO PRESSURE GOJ INTO ASCERTAINING FROM USG WHETHER ANY SUCH SHIPMENTS BEING MADE FROM JAPAN AND/OR TO TAKE PUBLIC POSITION OPPOSING ANY SUCH SHIPMENTS. WITHIN GOJ ITSELF, THERE MAY EVEN BE SOME VOICES IN FAVOR OF VOLUNTEERING SUCH STATEMENT EITHER TO FORESTALL OPPOSITION MANEUVERS OR IN EFFORT TO RELIEVE PRESSURE WHICH ARAB STATES PLACING ON JAPAN (SEE REFTEL PARA 2).
- 4. EMBASSY WILL OF COURSE CONTINUE TO ATTEMPT TO DISCOURAGE ANY SUCH ACTION BY GOJ SHOULD EVENTS SEEM TO BE MOVING IN THAT DIRECTION. IN THIS CONNECTION, EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE BEING INFORMED OF PRECISE NATURE OF FRG ACTION AND OF SUBSTANCE OF OUR RESPONSE. IN ADDITION, REQUEST ANY GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT MAY WISH OFFER ON APPROACH WE SHOULD TAKE WITH GOJ. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

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